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DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF OIL, GAS AND MINING

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August 16, 1988

TO: Board of Oil, Gas and Mining

THRU: Kenneth E. May, Associate Director, Mining *KEM*

THRU: Lowell P. Braxton, Administrator

FROM: Holland Shepherd, Reclamation Soils Specialist *HWS*

RE: Board's Advice on Drafting "Board Contract" for Uintah
County Commission, Asphalt Ridge Tar Sands Mine, M/043/003,
Uintah County, Utah *M/047/022*

In 1936, Uintah County took over the Asphalt Ridge Tar Sands Mine from John T. Pope, as a result of unpaid property taxes. In the 1950's and 1960's mining was initiated in earnest, with the oil boom and the need for all-weather roads. Uintah County has been mining the property ever since, and using the material for road surfacing purposes throughout the county.

The Division finally received a Mining and Reclamation Plan from Uintah County on May 9, 1988. This plan is currently under review and Division staff have been to the site.

The county has requested that it be allowed to make a "Board Contract" with the Division as surety for the disturbance. I have enclosed a copy of their request for such surety taken from their MRP submittal. Also, find enclosed a copy of the reclamation cost estimation.

HWS/jb
Attachments
4/22

VII. SURETY (Rule R613-005-112)

The tardiness of the County's efforts at filing a reclamation plan in no way reflect the County's commitment to reclamation of the asphalt mine. It has always been the County's intent to reclaim what it has disturbed. The degree and detail of the reclamation effort has, until the filing of this plan, differed significantly from what the State expected and what the County wanted to do. That gap has been largely removed.

Uintah County believes that the requirement to post a reclamation bond to insure completion of the reclamation would be inappropriate. Uintah County has been an existing political subdivision of the State as well as, the territory for over 100 years. As a public corporation with jurisdictional powers and responsibilities over County lands and land use, the County Commission requests that the bonding requirement of Rule R613-005-112 be waived; or that a variance to that rule be granted.

Uintah County hereby commits to the reclamation plan contained herein.

RECLAMATION COSTS ESTIMATION

Summary:

Area	R-1	R-2	R-3	R-4	R-5	Total
Acreage	8.33	7.02	18.1	11.84	17.25	62.54
Cleanup	0	0	0	0	\$1540	\$1,540
Earthwork	\$940	\$790	\$14,840 \$24,900	\$3520	\$5380	\$25,470 \$35,530
Planting	\$440	\$370	\$860	\$650	\$860	\$3180
Seed Mixes	\$410	\$450	\$990	\$810	\$970	\$3630
Fertilizer	\$310	\$280	\$560	\$400	\$530	\$2080
Safety	0	0	0	0	0	0
Monitoring	\$600	\$600	\$600	\$600	\$600	\$3000
M .	\$400	\$370	\$2680 \$4190	\$900	\$1480	\$5830 \$7340
Total Cost	\$3100	\$2860	\$20,530 \$32,100	\$6880	\$11,360	\$44,730 \$56,300
Total Cost per acre	\$372	\$407	\$1135 \$1774	\$581	\$659	\$715 \$900

NOTE: These cost estimates do not reflect costs of mining alternatives #2 or #3. Cost estimates for these alternatives would be submitted as an amendment if those mining plans are pursued.

Cost Calculations:
(All calculations rounded to the nearest \$10.00)

Cleanup: The mine service area of R-5 is the only area where structures are located. Estimated work would involve four County workers for two days to remove the structures.
Four people x 32 hours x \$12.00/hour = \$1540.00